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January 28, 2003

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HAND-DELIVERY

The Honorable Marvin J. Garbis
United States District Judge
United States District Court for
The District of Maryland
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: Kronopol v. M/V META, etc., et al.
Civil Action No.: MJG-02-3033

Dear Judge Garbis:

In response to the Court's Order dated January 15, 2003, to show cause why inactive case should not be dismissed, plaintiff's counsel states as follows:

The complaint in this case was filed on September 12, 2002, primarily due to the running of the one year statute of limitations under the U.S. Carriage of Goods by Sea Act. Subsequent to the filing of the complaint, plaintiff's New York counsel has been involved in extensive settlement discussions with defendants in this case.

While the parties have not reached a settlement, they are very close and hope that a settlement can be reached within the next 30 days.

In this regard, we would respectfully request that the Court allow plaintiff's counsel to provide a status report in 30 days or by February 28, 2003. We are hopeful that we will be able to advise the Court at that time that the case has been settled and that a settlement order can be entered.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

James D. Skeen

JDS/kf

cc: James A. Saville, Jr., Esquire

132806 v. (01383.00037)

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DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
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Approved
by James D. Skeen
1/28/03
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jan

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